

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-06

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DRAFTED BY EA/K STAFF:FLW
APPROVED BY EA/K - MR. RICH
EA/P - MR. CANNON (SUBSTANCE)
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
EA ONLY

-----058062 311833Z /46

R 302359Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS
AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY POUCH
AMEMBASSY SUVA POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 082534

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, EAGR, MARR, MORG, PEPR, JA, AS, RP, YO, KN, KS, US

SUBJEC: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT - KOREA

TO: EA - MR. HOLBROOKE

FROM: EA/K - ROBERT G. RICH, JR.

1. PL 480 (CONFIDENTIAL)

WE EXPECT WORD IMMINENTLY THAT AN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS HAS BEEN COMPLETED BETWEEN AMBASSADOR SNEIDER AND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER NAM CONCERNING PL 480. THIS WILL CLEAR THE WAY FOR CONCLUSION OF THE LONG-DELAYED AMENDMENT TO THE PL 480 AGREEMENT. IT IS CLEAR, BOTH FROM EMBASSY AND OTHER
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REPORTING WE HAVE RECEIVED, THAT NAM AND OTHERS HAVE PUT THEIR PERSONAL PRESTIGE ON THE LINE IN MAINTAINING THAT THERE IS NO CONNECTION BETWEEN THE LETTERS AND HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS. ANY USG IMPLICATION TO THE CONTRARY - A LA THE NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE ON THE INDONESIAN SIDE LETTER LAST DECEMBER - COULD HAVE MOST UNFORTUNATE IMPLICATIONS FOR OUR RELATIONS WITH IMPORTANT ROKG OFFICIALS.

2. UNC REAR (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

OUR PROBLEM IN FINDING THIRD COUNTRY STAFFING FOR THE UNC REAR OPERATION AT CAMP ZAMA, JAPAN APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN SOLVED FOR THE TIME BEING BY THE ASSIGNMENT OF A PHILIPPINE OFFICER AS OF MARCH 15. THE PROBLEM WAS PRECIPITATED WHEN THE UK INFORMED US IT WOULD NO LONGER BE ABLE TO STAFF THE POSITION AFTER JUNE 30 BECAUSE OF FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS. ASSIGNMENT OF A THIRD COUNTRY OFFICER TO THE UNC REAR IS ESSENTIAL IN THE EYES OF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT TO MAINTAIN THE VALIDITY OF THE UN SOFA. THERE IS STILL A POSSIBILITY THAT THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT WILL BE WILLING TO SHARE THIS STAFFING RESPONSIBILITY, AND WE WILL BE LOOKING INTO THE FEASIBILITY OF A ROTATING ASSIGNMENT ARRANGEMENT.

3. JAPANESE PRESS REPORTS YUGOSLAV PROPOSAL FOR TRIPARTITE TALKS (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

MAINICHI REPORTED MARCH 30 IN TOKYO THAT THE YUGOSLAVS DURING TITO'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON PROPOSED TRIPARTITE (U.S., SOUTH AND NORTH KOREAN) TALKS, AND THAT THE PROPOSAL HAS BEEN TRANSMITTED TO THE KOREAN PARTIES. THE REPORT CHARACTERIZED THE PROPOSAL AS AN EFFORT TO BRING ABOUT A GERMAN-TYPE SOLUTION FOR KOREA. THE TOKYO STORY, CONFIDENTIAL

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WHICH WAS SOURCED TO AN EASTERN EUROPEAN DIPLOMAT IN JAPAN, WAS QUICKLY PICKED UP BY THE MEDIA IN SEOUL. JACK CANNON BRIEFED ASIAN MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES TODAY WITH A STATEMENT THAT WE HAVE NO COMMENT ON THIS PARTICULAR STORY, BUT THAT SECURITY QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE KOREAN PENINSULA HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED BETWEEN THE U.S. AND YUGOSLAVIA. OUR POSITION REMAINS THE SAME; THAT WE ARE WILLING TO UNDERTAKE DISCUSSIONS WITH NORTH KOREA ONLY WITH THE FULL PARTICIPATION OF THE ROKG.

4. CHINESE EXPRESS CONCERN TO JAPANESE SOCIALISTS OVER TROOP WITHDRAWAL (CONFIDENTIAL)

THE VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE SINO-JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION REPORTEDLY TOLD VISITING JAPANESE SOCIALIST PARTY DIET MEMBERS THAT THE PRC IS CONCERNED ABOUT U.S. TROOP REDUCTIONS FROM KOREA AND FELT IT COULD LEAVE A VACUUM FOR THE SOVIETS TO FILL. THIS IS ONE OF THE MORE FORTHCOMING STATEMENTS ON THE SUBJECT WE HAVE SEEN FROM A PRC SOURCE WHICH, ALTHOUGH DISAVOWABLE, IS NEVERTHELESS RELATIVELY OFFICIAL. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, WE NOTE THE RECENT SHARP CHINESE ATTACKS ON THE U.S.-ROK EXERCISE

TEAM SPIRIT. THESE ATTACKS REPRESENTED AN UNUSUAL
INTENSIFICATION OF THE STANDARD PRC LINE OF SUPPORT

FOR PYONGYANG.

5. NORTH KOREANS AGAIN ATTACK PRESIDENT CARTER OVER
TEAM SPIRIT (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

IN A LONG AND HARSH NODONG SINMUN EDITORIAL ON THE
CONCLUSION OF THE TEAM SPIRIT EXERCISE, THE NORTH KOREANS
HAVE ATTACKED THE PRESIDENT A SECOND TIME OVER THE
EXERCISE AND HAVE RAISED THE LEVEL OF THEIR INVECTIVE
AGAINST THE ADMINISTRATION ONE STEP HIGHER. THE EDITORIAL
COMPLAINS THAT THE PRESIDENT'S DEEDS DO NOT CONFORM
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WITH HIS WORDS, AND THAT BEHIND THE SMOKESCREEN OF THE
TROOP WITHDRAWAL DECISION THE U.S. IS MAKING NUMEROUS
AGGRESSIVE MOVES. THE NORTH KOREANS DESCRIBE THE
PRESIDENT AS MORE CUNNING THAN HIS PREDECESSORS AND ONLY
ANOTHER REPRESENTATIVE OF AN UNCHAING U.S. POLICY OF
AGGRESSION TOWARD KOREA ORCHESTRATED BY MONOPOLY CAPITAL-
ISTS. COOPER

NOTE BY OC/T: PORT MORESBY & SUVA POUCHED

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Subject: EC: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT - KOREA TO: EA - MR. HOLBROOKE FROM: EA/K - ROBERT G. RICH, JR.
TAGS: EAID, EAGR, MARR, MORG, PEPR, JA, AS, RP, YO, KN, KS, US
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